

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 2, 6 and 7 are now present in this application. Claims 2, 6 and 7 are independent.

Amendments have been made to claim 2. Claims 1 and 3-5 have been canceled. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Reasons for Entry of Amendments

At the outset, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered into the Official File in view of the fact that the amendments to the claims automatically place the application in condition for allowance.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

The Examiner states (in the Office Action of December 21, 2008) that the Priority Document has not been received. However, this a National Stage of a PCT application, and the Priority Document should have been forwarded by the International Bureau. Therefore, no further action by Applicant appears to be necessary.

Information Disclosure Citation

The Examiner (in the Office Action of December 21, 2008) lined through reference KR 1999-0058713-A, indicating that the reference was not considered. However, no reason was given. Thus, it appears that the Examiner does not consider the reference to be relevant, and therefore, no action is required.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 and 3-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dodd et al. in view of Li et al., Choi et al., Aoki et al., Sakiguchi et al. and Betts. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 3-5 have been cancelled, thus rendering this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 6 and 7 are allowable.

The Examiner states that claims 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in this application. Objected-to claim 2 has been rewritten into independent form, and should therefore be allowed.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone James T. Eller, Jr., Registration No. 39,538, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

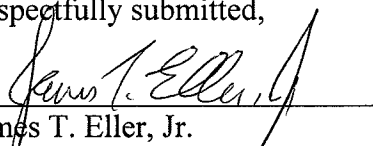
Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 29, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By



James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant